

Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

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SCOUTS
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

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NEWLY INAUGURATED CHIEF SCOUT SIBUSISO VILANE

"You are Limitless"

On the 15th of March 2014 Sibusiso Vilane was inaugurated as the new Chief Scout of SCOUTS South Africa in the presence of nearly 500 youths and invited guests.

A humbled and honoured Mr Vilane, who has summited the highest peaks of the world, now faces the challenge to inspire and empower over 308 000 SSA members to be good leaders and community minded, environmentally conscious pro-active citizens.

When addressing the Cubs and Scouts after he was inaugurated he stated "I pride myself in serving you. My message to you is never to limit yourself. You are Limitless! Strive for great heights and remember that it is not about where you were born, where you live or what you become, do or have. It's about what legacy you want to leave behind. Remember that with determination, hard work and perseverance there is nothing you cannot achieve! I encourage all of you to take all the opportunities that the Scout Movement is giving you and make them count!"

Ms Mary Mononela, Chief Director: Institutional Support and Capacity Development, Department of Women,



Photography: Terence Vrugtman AdventureLife!

Children and People with Disabilities stated: "Our common purpose is to build the Cubs so they can rise and become the strong people they are destined to be. Young people it's not just the model or artists out there who should be your hero. There are a lot of heroes here as well as your parents. Watch, listen and learn what they are teaching you. The Scouts have an important role in this country as they

contribute to youth development. Grab the opportunity the Movement gives you and learn and do, don't only be the hearers, also be the doers. You will then indeed be people the nation will be proud of. When we all then reflect back, we will discover that you were shaped to be successful citizens in the Scouting Movement. It might not always be easy but persevere and know that the best is yet to come."

Mr Sibusiso Vilane is one of a handful of South Africans, and the first black African, to climb each of the Seven Summits, the seven highest peaks in the world. "A sense of adventure is the one thing I believe is lacking in the majority of youth today. From my travels and activities, I have learnt that any type of physical adventure undertaken has the amazing ability to instil a number of attributes and very important character traits to individual. Adventure teaches you that for you to succeed in anything you have to work hard, work with people and never give up trying because you don't always succeed overnight, success takes a long time. It does mean taking risks, breaking out of limits and stepping out of your comfort zone. It's a practical way to learn by doing and that is what Scouting is all about."

BP SUNDAY CELEBRATED WITH HONOUR AND FUN!

On Sunday the 23rd of February Lord Baden Powell's birthday was widely celebrated by South African Scouting members all over the country. People gathered in their hundreds in the towns, in the countryside and even on the beach to commemorate his life and achievements, remember the values we stand for and to honour those being of

service to children and youths in the Scouting Movement.

In Gauteng, Chief Scout Sibusiso Vilane commended Scouts present for their dedication to our Movement. He spoke about summiting the highest peaks of the world and reminded the Scouts of the legacy they will leave behind, as Lord

Baden Powell had intended when saying "Leave this world a little better than you found it. He urged the Scouts to encourage their peers to join the Scout Movement and reap the benefits of spending time outdoors. He also encouraged parents to volunteer their time to our well-organised Scouting community.

be prepared....

A SURPRISE GUEST LEAVES A KING ... SPEECHLESS!

Way back in 2004, on a visit to South Africa, the King of Sweden met a young Scout in Gugulethu Township, 13 year old Buntu Tsotsobe. At that time young Buntu said to the King; "I wished I could wear my Scout uniform always, because in it I feel safe from the gangs."

Almost ten years later, last October, the King of Sweden, Honorary Chairman of the World Scout Foundation, a body dedicated to assist Scouting anywhere in the world to maintain its ideals, prepared a speech to address the Foundation members at their meeting in Paris, France. A surprise guest at that Regal Circle Dinner, an occasion organized to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of His Majesty's years as king of Sweden, was Buntu, which left His Majesty speechless.

Buntu Tsotsobe, still a Scout, an Asst. Scout Leader, works six days a week



Buntu Tsotsobe greets the King of Sweden.

Ack. WOSM

delivering vegetables for his step-father to earn enough to go to college to study business. His spare time is spent helping others – in the Scout Movement and with a NGO in Gugulethu.

The bright eyed young man described his work with young offenders, brought to Scouts by the NGO. He uses the leadership skills he learned in Scouting. "I am nice to

them – and you know what? They all keep coming to Scouts and they really like me!"

His Majesty was clearly pleased to meet Buntu again and stayed talking about his life in South Africa, and his hopes and dreams for the future. "and I am going to use Buntu's story in my speech this evening." added the surprised King.

Buntu Tsotsobe was chosen by the members of the Regal Circle to represent all Scouts throughout the world that have been helped and inspired by His Majesty over the years. The wonderful news for Buntu – he's also been chosen as the first recipient of the "Siegfried Weiser Scholarship Fund", established in the World Scout Foundation by Lars and Vibeke Kolind. We will surely want to hear a lot more of Buntu, his Scouting and his future achievements.

B-P's OUTLOOK

Going Up

I have lately been renewing my youthful experiences in seeing my boy pass up from Preparatory to his Public School, and it brought back memories of half a century ago when I left my happy nest in a small school where I was a somebody to find myself a stranger and a worm under the foot of a mass of bigger boys in the big community at Charterhouse.

The Master and Dame whom I had left had been father and mother to me; the new masters were many, and in an orbit far above me, overlooking a crowd of boys, assisted by energetic but unsympathetic monitors.



Had my translation to the bigger school been optional to me I should never have gone there, or at any rate I should not have stopped there long.

Well, I can't help thinking it is rather like this, in some cases, where Wolf Cubs go up into their Scout Troop. For very similar reasons too often they have no desire to go up, or if they go, they slack off and leave the Troop.

It is a point which Scoutmasters and their Assistants and, particularly, their Patrol Leaders should study; and they should aim to make things easy for the young Tenderfoot. A little extra sympathy and help to him just at first repays itself in stopping leakage, and is after all part of the job as brother Scouts. I only make this suggestion as a reminder, for I have heard of cases where it is needed

January 1928

EXCO POSITIONS CONFIRMED

The Chief Scout has pleasure in announcing and congratulating the following as new Exco Members:

Zaknele Sibanda –	Young Leaders Representative
Andrew Tanner –	National Adult Support Chairperson
Andrew Hall –	National Adult Resource Chairperson
Gerard Evans –	National Rover Chairperson
Darren Robinson -	National Youth Programme Chairperson
Goodenough Dlamini –	Scouting in Schools Channel Coordinator
Allen Petrie –	National Marketing Committee Chairperson
Gerhard Sagat, Dustin Chick –	National Marketing Committee Members
John Fraser –	National Finance Committee Chairperson
Charles Parsons, John Sturgeon –	National Finance Committee Members
Khonzaphi Mdaka –	National Property Committee Chairperson

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Rebecca Meyer – Eastern Cape
Kyle Corbett – Western Cape
Anja Muhr – Western Cape
Bronwyn Seager – Western Cape
Joshua van Staden – KwaZulu Natal
Devon Oosthuizen – KwaZulu Natal
Ashleigh Cramb - Gauteng

THE PATROL SYSTEM!

We brag that the success of our movement is B-P's idea of the Patrol System. That our Scout Troops are conducted in that fashion and that the older, experienced PL takes a group of younger, wide eyed kids under his wing and shows them what Scouting is all about, feeding that enthusiasm and carrying them along to Scouting success and enjoyment.

Here I must ask our Troop Scouter in particular, and every other uniformed member involved with the Troop, is that the way it happens in your Troop? If you can honestly reply "Yes", then I applaud you. You are running a true Scout Troop.

On the other hand you might find excuses why it is not possible to use the Patrol System in your situation. Or you might answer, "I find the way I do it is more convenient, and anyway I still produce Springboks!" Do you truly! Are your Springboks really leaders if they have never had the chance to lead anything other than a great bunch of kids having a good time?

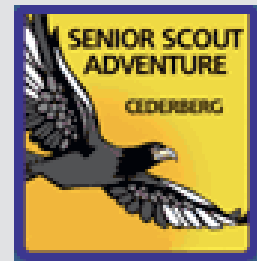
Were you ever part of a properly run patrol as a Scout or Guide when you were young? Unfortunately many of our Scouters were never Scouts or Guides in their youth, or if

they were, was your Troop or Guide Company run on the proper Patrol system. Unfortunately you may have never had the thrill of growing in a group of same minded pals doing Scouting things as a "gang", and reaching success, or sometimes disappointment, together in your own personal patrol.

You ask: Is there still hope for me to get to run my Troop in the way B-P meant me to? Of course! Get the Adult Training, or refresher you NEED! Even though it's the job of the Troop Scouter to train his PLs through his Court of Honour, use your PLTU Provincial Team to help you. Read, and read again, publications that tell you all about it. Persist in putting the theory into practice in your Troop, don't be sidetracked by disappointments. Before you know it, your Troop will consist of four enthusiastic Patrols in place of the two struggling groups you started with.

For your benefit, I reprint an article on the Patrol System written by Dr Dudley Forde, Mr PLTU of South African Scouting.

SENIOR SCOUT ADVENTURE – CEDERBERG



The 21st Senior Scout Adventure is inviting applicants to participate from 12th December until 23rd December 2014. Go to WWW.Scouting.org.za/adventure and read all about it. You can book your place on the web page or go to your Provincial Office and get the necessary information and application forms.

This world renowned and eagerly anticipated Senior Scout Adventure is aimed at Scouts from all over the world. If you will be 15 years old and not yet 18 years old on 12th December 2014, and a rugged and active Scout, you will be welcomed.

BP'S GREAT GIFT – THE PATROL SYSTEM.

Baden-Powell would have been a great person to spend time with; he would have been so interesting to talk with.

Not only was he a brave soldier, a creative military commander – the Hero of Mafeking, but he had proved himself also as a writer of books (Scouting for Boys was for a long time one of the top three English Books for the number of books sold), an artist, a horseman, a spy (we know this from his own stories in Scouting for Boys) and an actor.

One man, who was himself acknowledged as a truly successful leader in South Africa, and was a much respected Principal of the University of Natal in Durban, was a fan of Baden-Powell; but not for any of these attributes I have mentioned. He suggested that Baden-Powell would be remembered as one of the greatest educators of the 20th Century.

Now Scouting is an educational movement. In 1907 B.P.'s methods of training were revolutionary. Over one hundred years later, though many, many organisations, including educational organisations, have adopted these methods, somehow in the Movement B.P. gave us we struggle to truly implement his unique and most important lesson – the use of the Patrol System.

Here is a little question. How do you see the Patrol System in a Scout Troop? Hands up. Yes, you over there.

"A troop is divided up into patrols." No. Wrong.

Yes you there.

"A troop is made up of patrols". Right!

The central unit of Scouting is the patrol. The clue to that is in something the founder wrote to Patrol Leaders –

"I want you Patrol Leaders to go on and train your patrols in future entirely yourselves, because it is possible for you to get hold of each boy in your patrol and make a good fellow of him."

This applies as much today to the girls and boys who are Patrol Leaders today. The successful troop is the one that truly operates the system, where the Troop Scouters train, guide, co-ordinate and assist the PL's in their job, and don't try to do it all themselves.

We can see the fruits of that success in countless fine people today, who lead exemplary and important lives as good fathers and mothers, as motivators and inspirers, as entrepreneurs and as leaders in the professions, trades and business – because they were products of well run troops that really ran the patrol system.

Vital to this, is of course the attitude and performance of the Troop Scouter, who realises the main function of training these

'leaders in training' who are not yet 'trained leaders' and provide the necessary support – BUT – who lets them take responsibility for running, managing and organising their patrols, and training their scouts.

It is magic, but it works.

The troop scouter who appreciates the importance of personal example in living the Scout Law and Promise, in truly sharing the leadership of the troop through that magnificent training vehicle the 'Court of Honour', who develops the skills of the PL's so they in turn can pass these on to the scouts, is truly running a Scout Troop and not a Youth Club and rightly understands the job to be done.

The Patrol Leader in turn, who will have a busy family, school and social life apart from Scouting, will find there is so much to learn, not only in scouting skills, but in how to work with other people, what leadership is and what it means to be a leader and take real responsibility. There are fewer more valuable and important opportunities anywhere in the education system to get ready for life, that to be a PL in a well run troop.

The Patrol System was indeed a rare gift.

Dr Dudley Forde



The 23rd World Jamboree

The 23rd World Jamboree will be held in Kirara-hama Japan from 28th July to 6th August 2015. The South African Contingent Management Team are calling for Scouts who intend participating to apply for a position in the Contingent. See www.scouting.org.za/events/2015/worldjamboree/ for all details and application forms. Application forms for adult Contingent members will be available soon.



**CUB
POW-WOW
2014**
**Melkbos
Western Cape
30 April - 3 May**

ON THE ROOF OF AFRICA



On the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro, three Algoa Sea Scouts, Jessica Westraadt, Asha Chowan and James Westraadt.

Jessica & Asha (Springbok Scouts), are now university students while James is Dep. Head Boy at his school.



A happy bunch of participants from North West Province attending a PPC Course with Andrew Tanner and his team.

CAPE KON-TIKI a 'Lab' of adventure and excitement!

From the 20th to the 23rd of March hundreds of teens rallied together at the Sandvlei Sea Scout base to compete in the Cape Kon-Tiki 2014.

This year's CapeKon-Tiki stepped up the challenge and turned the Sea Scout Base into a "Laboratory" of adventure and excitement. The competition started on Thursday and so the challenge this year included spending two nights on the raft, a parent potjie competition with the camp fire on the Saturday evening. The Fringe activities included pioneering and racing activities and were enjoyed by all!

For the third time running 1stBergvliet Sea Scouts took the rafting winner's trophy and added the 2014 Fringe competition to their long list of victories.



The "Fringe Race"

Photo Gareth Evans.

Group Scouter Adrian Velaers was very proud of all the Scouts present "The competition was tough with some very strong other teams. We won by a narrow margin of 3 points out of 759! I am very pleased by the determination, leadership, teamwork and general competence of all of our scouts! Let's keep it up!"

Another special feature this year was the Rover raft. The Rovers decided to embrace the opportunities they too receive as being part of the Scouting Movement and joined in the fun. Even though they did not compete for a prize, they joined in and had a great time! Who knows, maybe next year there will be more Rover rafts?

The Cape Kon-Tiki Adventure was started at Sandvlei in 1978 by Darryl McEwan. Originally it was purely a raft competition

whereby teens had to live on the raft for 24 hours. Today the competition has grown exponentially and with the addition of the Kon-Tiki Fringe even the crews on land get to exert their 'competitive spirit'!

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be prepared....